

Claims

1. Process for performing a remote setup procedure of a software application on a remote client which operates under an operating system which does not support a remote installation facility,

characterised in that it involves the steps of:

- installing (23) an executable file for controlling a local setup procedure under the form of a low level service which is available in the operating system for local background tasks and routines, said executable file being associated with the description contained within a description file (*package.ini*) present on a shared resource;

- starting (24) said executable file so as it becomes available to said remote client as a service and permits the automatic launching of a local setup procedure in accordance with the contents of said description file (*package.ini*).

2. Process for performing a remote setup procedure of a software application on a remote client which operates under Windows NT on a Local Area Network (LAN),

characterised in that it involves the steps of:

- installing (23) an executable file for controlling a local setup procedure under the control of the NT Service Control Manager (SCM) and in accordance with the description contained within a description file (*package.ini*) present on a shared resources; said executable file (*pushservice.exe*) receiving the format of a NT service;

- starting (24) said executable file so as it becomes available to said PC client as a service and permits the launching of a local setup procedure within said PC client in accordance with the contents of said description file (*package.ini*).

3. Process according to claim 2 characterised in that said executable file has an entry point which is a service entry and which is further registered by said NT Service Control Manager with an option of the command line which refers to said description file (*package.ini*).

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4. Process according to claim 3 characterised in that said description file (*package.ini*) contains a list of the installation files required for a local setup procedure plus an additional line defining the command which is to be entered for executing an unattended setup procedure of said software application.

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5. Process according to claim 1 comprising the display of a Graphical User Interface (GUI) for providing to the user a list of software applications which are currently available on the NT domain as well as a list of the computer clients therein included, and further including a drag-and-drop mechanism for the purpose of launching an additional remote setup procedure in a new PC client.

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6. Process according to claim 1 characterised in that it involves the step of:

- prompting the user to enter a particular context where said executable file (*pushservice.exe*) is to be executed;
- requesting the id and password corresponding to that context;
- verifying said id and password being entered by the user and, in accordance with the verification, installing said executable file as a NT service.

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7. Process according to claim 1 characterised in that the installation of the NT service is followed by the activation of a Wake-on-LAN function in said PC client for the purpose of starting said service.

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8. Process executed in a IT administrator console (1) for the purpose of controlling the remote installation of software application packages into at least one PC client, said process involving the steps of:

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- installing an executable file (*pushservice.exe*) as a NT service under the control of a NT Service Control Manager (SCM), said executable file controlling the local setup

procedure of a software application in unattended mode in accordance with a description defined by a description file (*package.ini*) present on shared resources;

- starting said executable file as a NT service for the purpose of launching the setup procedure within said PC client.

9. Process for controlling the execution on a remote PC client of an executable file existing on shared resources in a NT domain, characterised in that it involves the steps of:

- installing said executable file as an NT service under the control of the NT Service Control Manager (SCM);
- starting said installed service for the purpose of automatically triggering the execution of said executable file.

10. Server for a NT domain comprising a LAN or an Intranet network, characterised in that it includes:

- at least one software installation package existing as shared resources within said NT domain, each of said at least one package comprising a set of installation files required for a local setup procedure within said at least one PC client;

- A description file (*package.ini*) which comprises a description of all installation files, and further including a command for controlling an unattended setup procedure;

- an executable file (*pushservice.exe*) existing as shared resources and receiving the format of a NT service, said executable file (*pushservice.exe*) being installed as a NT service by the NT Service Control Manager and receiving, as an option to the command line, a reference to said description file; said executable file causing, when started as a service, the execution of the local setup procedure within said at least one PC client.